

Art Unit: 3753

REMARKS

The specification has been reviewed, and clerical errors are corrected.

In paragraph 2 of the Action, claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *DuPont et al.* (5,484,506) in view of *Abbott et al.* (6,762,396).

In paragraph 3 of the Action, claims 3 and 4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *DuPont et al.* (5,484,506) in view of *Abbott et al.* (6,762,396) as applied to claim 1, and further in view of *Chapman* (3,065,536).

In paragraph 4 of the Action, claim 7 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *DuPont et al.* (5,484,506) in view of *Abbott et al.* (6,762,396) as applied to claim 1, and further in view of *Ross et al.* (5,352,871).

In paragraph 6 of the Action, claims 5 and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

In paragraph 7 of the Action, claim 2 was objected to, but indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In view of the rejections and indication of allowability, claim 1 has been amended to add limitations of claim 2 and clarify the features of the invention, and claim 2 has been canceled. Claims 3 to 7 have been amended to correct clerical errors and clarify the features of the invention.

With the amendments, the application is believe to be in the allowable condition.

Reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited.

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Respectfully submitted,

TAKEUCHI & TAKEUCHI

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Y. Takeuchi', with a stylized, cursive script.

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